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The International Philatelist

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS

W. S. Weatherston,

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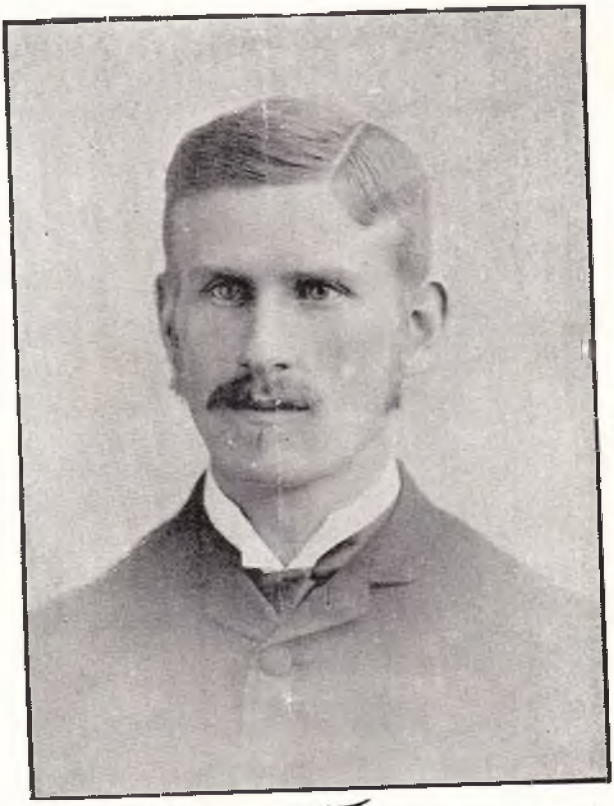

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Hartsoldier

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The International Philatelist

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. I., No 4. TORONTO, CANADA. JAN., 1893.

Mr. Harton Walker.

We take great pleasure in presenting to our readers a portrait of our respected Vice-President, Mr. Harton Walker.

Mr. Walker received his primary education at the Model school in this city and began collecting while there in 1875. In the following year he attended the Centenial Exhibition in Philadelphia and while there, and during a stop of a few days in New York, he bought a large quantity of stamps that formed the start for his present collection, which now consists of between six and seven thousand varieties. In 1878 he went to Paris, France, to acquire a knowledge of the French language, and can relate some interesting experiences in exchanging stamps at the "Petit Bourse," where all the collectors and dealers in Paris congregate on Sunday afternoons In consequence, his collection is pretty rich in the stamps of France, and her colonies. When the movement was started to form the Toronto Philatelic Club, Mr. Walker was one of the first to take the matter up, and has since been a very active worker in the interests of the society. Mr. Walker is not a specialist, but has a general collection of which any one might be proud. He is a thorough student of his stamps, and many interesting discoveries that adorn the pages of his album have been the result of the care he has always shown in handling all of his stamps.

Philately in Canada.

The peculiar spirit that has always characterized everything connected with Canada and Canadians has had effected philately as much as it has anything else, and we notice, therefore, that there is not nearly so much flash and show about stamp collectors in Canada, and they are possibly not heard of nearly so much. Canada, in proportion to her population, could make as good a showing of advanced students of our hobby as any country in the world. We have two flourishing general associations, and we are gradually beginning to find out that there is more philatelic power in this Canada of ours than perhaps we ever dreamed of. A great point that should be kept in mind is, loyalty to Canada. Collectors in the great neighboring republic always pay special attention to stamps of the United and Confederate States, and it is only every Canadian collector's duty to make some speciality of the stamps of British North America. No more interesting stamps exist in the world, and there is plenty to study in them Starting with the early provincial stamps before confederation, right up to the present issue of the Dominion, these stamps afford as wide a range of interest as possible and well as, as much variation in design. This is more especially apparent when the Revenue emissions are taken into consideration. The law stamps of the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia are comparatively unknown, while too little attention has been given fo those of the other provinces; and now as regards to the Canadian societies. At present neither the C. P. A, or P.S. of C. are in a really prosperous condition, and if we could only bind over a few to keep the peace an amalgamation would be highly beneficial. Probably half the members of the Philatelic clubs in Montreal, Toronto, Quebec and other of our large cities are not members of either of the national associations and the amalgamation could easily be made to include all of the local organizations. Canada has un-

doubtedly, a great philatelic future before it and if a little wisdom and forethought is exercised now, to get a really solid society for our younger collectors, to come into when they get old enough, a tremendous amount of trouble in the coming years will be averted. So what we all need to keep in mind, is to do all in our power to build up a good solid basis for future Canadian philately and to always be loyal to our own country first and foremost.

The Columbian Issue.

These stamps have made their appearance on time, and the great expectations of the followers of Philately in the United States have been realized, or rather, at least, we hope they have been. Speaking for ourselves, we hardly think they come up to what might have been expected, and resemble too closely the recent issues of some of the countries of South America, which are not an improvement on their earlier issues. We confess though it is an easy thing to criticise after the act, but no doubt very difficult to overcome all the features that might prove objectional and satisfy a world of various tastes before or in completion of the act; still, now that they are before us, we venture to say, that in some particulars, they will be found not to be an advance. We take exception to their size, being two much of the "Placard," or "Label" specie. We are told that this is occasioned by the inability to print within a smaller compass the scenes, or rather sketches traditional relating to Columbus, but in reply to this, we would refer the reader to varieties of the issue of 1869 which do ample justice to their sketches, and are free from the objection as to increase of size. The issue of 1869 in this particular, is much more convenient, of course the extra area of the Columbus allows the artist a more generous latitude, and we think that if desired, the same effect might have been produced in a smaller space.

The numeral, or index value is diminutive, and this objectional feature was called attention to lately in our Canadian stamps, by Mr. Sanford Fleming, whose paper was read before the Canadian Institute at Toronto, and chronicled by us in our last issue. The engraving is artistic and well executed, the colorings are excellent, though strong in some instances, and great ingenuity and effect have been displayed in maintaining the distinctiveness and variety. The paper of the ones we have seen, are not, we think, equal to previous, and in particular the earlier issues.

The higher values are quite an innovation and collectors may consider themselves fortunate to obtain them in any condition, still there should be no anxiety on this point, as we read in the January number of "The Stamp" that the Postmaster General has ordered 3,000,000,000 of all values to be delivered in 1893.

These stamps at the present time are of interest to America, and in fact to all the world and will do their part to still further "boom" Columbus. They will be popular, and we should fancy, be almost exclusively used during the year of their currency in preference to the general issue, which, however, has not been supplanted by them, but may be still obtained and used.

Around Town.

Post office Inspector Sweetman is in Europe.

While in the city last week Postmaster General Caron visited the post office at the busy time of 6 p.m., when thousands of letters are being thrust into the receivers, and half a hundred clerks are busy at the task of sorting them for their destinations. The three fastest stampers in the Dominion were on hand to show the Minister a sample of their skill, and with the precision of a factory the letters were put through the various processes, between the table upon which they fall from the writer's hand to the bag in the mail wagon, bound for the Union station. The Postmaster General was informed that the carriers now deliver over fifty thousand letters a day, and that the sale of stamps in the city had increased to a total considerably over $400,000 per annum, while all branches of the business showed a steady increase.

London Notes.

The papers here are busy discussing the second English Philatelic Exhibition and some think that Birmingham will be the place this time.

According to the Daily Chronicle, a report is current in good quarters, that the Government have practically determined to adopt the system of Imperial penny postage so long advocated by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M. P. Although no actual decision has yet been arrived at, there is little doubt that its near adoption may be regarded as certain.

The Fiscal Philatelist has appeared, and has made a good impression on revenue collectors, it being the only one of its kind in the world.

London dealers make some rapid strides on the road to success, when once they do start. Messrs. Hugo Creebert & Co. have removed from 135 Fenchurch street, to more extensive premises at 29 Bishopgate street, where they occupy the first and second floors. The first is used as a show room, and the second as a wholesale department. Outside the building, between the windows, are large paintings of Sydney views, etc.

The agitation is still going on for lower rates of postage on newspapers and periodicals.

Mr. Hadlow held a sale of a specialist's collection on Dec. 9th and 10th. The speciality was Great Britain, this being the first time a sale has ben formed of these stamps only. Some very good prices were given, the V.R. official envelope going for £8-2-6, ($39.00.)

A Good Catalogue.

The catalogue of the 118th sale of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. has been received. It is composed of Mr. Geo. Henckens collection, divided into two thousand and sixteen lots and advertised to take place at the Astor House, New York city, on the 18th, 19th, 25th and 26th of the present month.

As may be imagined from the extensive size of the collection many valuable and rare specimens will beoffered. We notice among them fine specimens of each of the shillings of Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the double Geneva green and 4 Zurich of Switzerland, the 2 cents Spain 1852-53-54, several of the first issue of British Guiana, 6-pence perforated un-used Canada; 180, 300 and 600, 1844 Brazil, the 3 pfe. red first issue Saxony, besides a host of other and equally desirous ones, to numerous to set out in limited space.

While it is to be regretted that such a large collection as this and also of the F de Coppet are to be broken up, still it offers to the collector about the only chance of obtaining many of there very rare stamps.

The catalogue is to be commended for its completeness in form, and for its two front pages with photogravure fac simile of the rarest specimens of those to be offered. This enables those who are not fortunate enough to be able to inspect the specimens beforehand, to judge better of their condition, and so frame their bids accordingly, and we doubt not but that venders and purchasers will be equally pleased with the result.

Notes on the New Issue.

The new Columbian issue are exactly like "Seebacks," but we hope we will not have to chronicle them 'Surcharged.' No doubt everyone has seen a description of them, so we will give a few snatches from other pens.

In Chicago, it was estimated that on Tuesday the 3rd, over $40,000 worth of new stamps were sold—Mekeel's Weekly.

The new Columbian stamps are not only hard to beat, but their size also renders them difficult to lick.—Boston Herald.

The Columbian set, so new,
In our memories will fix
Nor only 1492,
But ($) 16.26.—L. S. Morton in Mekeel's Weekly.

- The -

International Philatelist

A Monthly for Collectors.

Published on the 15th of each month.

Editors.

G. A. Lowe. E. J. Phillips.

W. S. Weatherston.

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Editorial Notes.

One year ago it would have been hard to believe that philatelic matters could have taken such a stride in Toronto as they have, but we are all awake now and feel safe in saying that this time next year will not have seen any retrograde movement. A great many interests are at work that are going to combine to make our fair city one of the philatelic centers of the continent.

We notice a remark in an exchange to the effect that there is plenty of room for half a dozen more good philatelic papers in America. This is rather doubtful, but there is most decidedly room for a considerably larger amount of brain work to be put into some of the papers at present published. It takes as much, and perhaps a little more, mental power to run a stamp paper properly, as it does anything else, and a thorough realization of this fact is perhaps as much needed as anything is, at present.

Another stamp magazine is promised from Toronto, next month. Beforehand, we wish it every success and have no doubt that it will have it. There are other cities, not nearly as large as this, that manage to support three or four journals very successfully, and we can surely support two.

Next month we will go outside Toronto for our supplement, and will present to our readers a portrait of one of the hardest workers in the cause of philately, Mr A. R. Rogers, of New York city. We would advise anyone who intends subscribing for this paper to do so immediately and not miss any of these supplements.

We notice that the Philatelic Society of Canada, intends dropping all members who do not pay up their dues immediately. This may decrease the membership roll somewhat, but no tree will grow properly without some pruning, and it will give us an idea of the real strength of this society.

The Toronto Philatelic Club.

The above named club met as usual, on Wednesday evening, January 18th. About twenty members were present and considerable business was got through. Mr. Harvey was proposed as a member of the club by Mr. W. S. Weatherston, seconded by Mr Phillips. A committee consisting of Messrs. Parker, Sparks and Phillips was appointed to obtain some suitable parlor in one of the down-town hotels, in which to hold Mr. Clark's auction sale on the 28th inst. No auction was held. The next meeting will be on Feb'y 5th, '93.

The Other Fellows.

Stanley Gibbons presents us with a number for December of their Journal, that is up to its usual excellence. The article entitled 5892, flavors strongly of the improbable, but is very cleverly written. Continued articles and notes make up the remainder of an interesting num ber.

The Stamp Collector's Journal does not seem as good as some of the other English papers. It is always newsy, however, and amply repays perusal. The December number contains an article on the British Post Office. Society notes and news constitute the rest of the reading matter.

With the December number of the Stamp Collector's Monthly, concludes its usual yearly volume. The article on Adhesive Stamps of Ceylon, is the most interesting we can find in this issue.

The Philatelic Journal, of Great Britain, might well be termed the acme of philatelic journalism. It seems very nearly as close to perfection as it is possible to get, in the world of imperfections and failures. The Review of Reviews seems the more welcome for having been missed for a month.

The Post Office transfers its attentions from New York to Boston this month, and gives us an interesting historic sketch of the "Hub's" post office building. Mr. Gremmel, although an amalgamationist, is still very loyal to the A.P.A. as he devotes considerable space to that society's interests every month.

The fact of having missed second-class rates does not seem to trouble the Postal Card much. It is looking as hale and hearty as ever, and must be of inestimable value to card collectors.

The Pennsylvania Philatelist, is evidently prospering. Twenty-eight pages and cover are not a bad showing for so comparatively young a paper. But true worth is generally appreciated and the P.P. offers most meritorious menu. Mr. Kantner well deserves the encouragement he is getting, and we wish our Reading, Pa., friend a long and successful life.

The Philatelic Journal of America, scarcely needs to be commented upon. It is never behind hand, and never fails to be interesting.

The Collector's Press, is small, but interesting.

From away out West come the American Philatelic Magazine, for the first time, to our table. It is well printed, and edited, and ought to live.

When so many grand holiday numbers are issued, it must be difficult to make up such a paper as the Eastern Philatelist, absolutely original from cover to cover. It shows what enterprise and push can do for a philatelic paper.

It will not be long before all the prominent philatelists from far and near will be as familiar to us as those at home. Very nearly every paper is publishinga portrait of a prominent philatelist every month, and they all seem to be good-looking fellows. The Missouri Philatelist introduces us to their reviewing editor, Mr. C. E. Severn, and we do not doubt their assertion as to his being one of philately's best scribes.

The Quaker City Philatelist occupies, as usual, the majority of its space, with society reports. "Canadensis" manages to splice in a little sense, with his nonsense, this month. He probably means well.

The Golden Star is rapidly becoming a favorite, and would be missed now. Good readable matter often means more than size.

We have the pleasure of receiving two issues of the Stamp, this time. A rather surprising change in the editorial staff evidently took place, just before the December number was issued, but neither it, nor the holiday number seem to have suffered from the shock.

Friend Luhn queries why we did not review him in our November number. We always do, when we get the chance. We are afraid the October number could not have reached us. The Xmas number is exceptionally good. Lack of space prevents us giving a larger review, but the

Southern Philatelist is always a welcome visitor to this shanty.

The Detroit Philatelist is not one whit behind any of its sister magazines. Mr. Crittenden has the idea of running a paper down pretty solid.

Filatelic Facts and Fallacies comes from the sunset land as the only philatelic paper published on the Pacific coast. We sincerely hope it will live.

Our next door neighbor, and a good one at that, presents us with an excellent Xmas number. There is no fear of the Canadian Philatelist not being appreciated, as it keeps up to the present standard.

The Ottawa Philatelist is looking bad. In fact, it fell all to pieces when we opened it. We will look for considerable improvement next time.

No less than four photo-engravings adorn the pages of the Dominion Philatelist, this month. Such enterprise is refreshing, and when it is coupled with an abundance of good reading matter we can only praise.

We notice an item in the Philatelic J. of G. B. which states that a philatelic society is contemplated in Toronto, and also that societies are already established in Montreal, Quebec, St. John and Halifax. The T. P. C. was well on its way before the Quebec society was formed, and we have never heard of any from either St. John, or Halifax.

The American Philatelist for January, might well be termed a Canadian number, as three of its leading articles are devoted to Canadian stamps and stamp journals. The article on "the Stamp Publications of Canada," by Mr. J. K. Tiffany will be of greatest interest to every Canadian collector. Mr. H. L. Hart, in an article entitled "British North America" gives us his experience as a collector of these stamps for the past ten years, and imparts much valuable information in the same The comparatively unknown, philatelically, provisional law stamps of Manitoba and regular issues of British Columbia are listed and illustrated altogether, this number is a most interesting one for all collectors, and more especially so to Canadians

We have received the following papers; Eastern Stamp, Mekeel's Weekly, the Chicago Stamp News, the Reporter, One Dime Monthly Visitor, the North Star, the Philatelic Tribune, New Jersey Philatelist, the Youngster, Northwest.

Price lists from Hy. Gremmel, Fisher Tetley & Co., H. F. Dunkhorst, Stafford Smith & Co.

Auction catalogues from R. F Albrecht & Co., The S. B Bradt Co., T. S. Clark, Bogert & Durbin, Hy. Gremmel, and the Scott Stamp & Coin Co.

The Collector for January, is as newsy and devoted to the S.O.P. as ever. If every philatelic association had as good an official organ as this, there would some of them get quite a boom.

The Yankee Philatelist has improved its typographical appearance this month considerably. If it gets some good reading matter it will be very presentable.

Wise and Otherwise.

Active steps have at last been taken towards the making of some change in the Canadian postage stamps. If it is decided to have a new issue, it would not be unwise for the Government to call for designs, the same as the Australian government did. If we are to have new stamps there is no reason why we should not have the best and prettiest designs to be got.

There are very few advertisers, no matter what they deal in, that seem to know just how to advertise. Two points should always be observed, in writing an advt. Have it worded so as to attract attention from everybody, and put it in as few words as possible. Nine persons will read a crisp, well written advt. when one in ten would go through a long-winded one. Short, crisp, and interesting should be the advertiser's motto.

Some writers are saying that the day is not far distant when general collecting will be almost unknown. I do not agree with them. It is very probable that specialism is, and will be on the increase, but at the rate of growth that philately is enjoying at present, there will be two general collectors to every specialist. No one starts as a specialist, in fact, the matter is very much like a boy going to school. There he gets a general knowledge of a large variety of subjects, but in after life he usually devotes himself to one particular business and finds plenty of work in making a success of that. We must always have general collectors, or our hobby would soon give up the ghost.

Writing on general collecting suggests the subject of common stamps. To the true philatelist this race after rarities has too much money making in it. Scarce stamps are naturally to be prized, but no one should neglect the study of some of his perhaps cheaper, but equally as interesting varieties. Do not get discouraged if your collection does not contain a lot of rarities, but keep on studying your common stamps and the rarities will come in good time.

I recently noticed an editorial in a Western contemporary, that expressed sympathy for the poor deluded fellow out in Winnipeg, Man., who suggested a new issue of stamps for Canada. It is all very well to talk when you live in a country that has had five or six new issues since Canada's last, but I am afraid that our worthy Western friend would be feeling rather weary if the United States had continued the same issue for twenty years, and especially when the stamps were not up to the requirements of the people. Just at present Canada could stand a new issue of stamps about as well as any country on the face of the earth. JEP.

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The Philatelic Mail and Express, Albany N. Y.
The Fiscal Philatelist, London, Eng.

MARRIAGES.

The Monthly Visitor, Philatelic Dept., and the Nebraska stamp, at Central City, Neb.

DEATHS.

The Pentucket Philatelist, Haverhill, Mass.

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